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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An airborne radar interrogates tags on friendly ground vehicles, which when interrogated by a downlink signal from the radar, sends back a very low level uplink message signal that appears noise-like so as to avoid enemy detection and exploitation. This is achieved by retransmitting a time delayed and phase shifted version of the transmitted pulse from the radar. The digital RF tag captures every other pulse from the radar and transmits a digitally coded spread spectrum pulse back to the radar during every other intervening pulse which includes a pseudo random delay (range hop) and a pseudo random phase (direction).